

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 1-13 and ADD claims 14-26 in accordance with the following:

Claims 1-13 (canceled)

14. (new) A method for controlling transmission of data in a radio communication system having a hierarchical network architecture, comprising:

administering physical resources for a data transmission to user equipment by a first device at a first hierarchy within the hierarchical network architecture; and

transmitting load information about a current load situation of the physical resources by the first device to a second device at a second hierarchy higher than the first hierarchy within the hierarchical network architecture for controlling a load distribution.

15. (new) A method according to claim 14, wherein the load information includes load states for an area of the radio communication system supplied by the first device.

16. (new) A method according to claim 15, wherein the load information includes load values averaged over time for at least one of defined operating parameters and signaling types of the radio communication system for radio data connections between user equipment and a third device of a lowest hierarchy.

17. (new) A method according to claim 16, further comprising:

cell load reporting; and

checking on an assignment of user equipment to specific devices of the lowest hierarchy based on said cell load reporting.

18. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein the radio communication system is a cellular radio communication system, and

wherein said method further comprises checking on a handover option for at least one user equipment from a first cell of the radio communication system to a second cell of the radio communication system based on said cell load reporting.

19. (new) A method according to claim 18, wherein said cell load reporting includes transmissions depending on particular time events.

20. (new) A method according to claim 19, wherein said cell load reporting includes periodic transmissions.

21. (new) A method according to claim 18, wherein said cell load reporting includes transmissions depending on specific operational events of the radio communication system.

22. (new) A method according to claim 21, wherein said cell load reporting is undertaken as a function of defined load states for the area of the radio communication system served by the first device.

23. (new) A method according to claim 22, wherein said cell load reporting is undertaken as a function of defined threshold values for the load states.

24. (new) A method according to claim 23, further comprising controlling a transmission of data packets in a packet data transmission system.

25. (new) A radio communication system having a hierarchical network architecture with devices for control of transmission of data to user equipment and administration of physical resources, comprising:

at least one high level device at a first hierarchy within the hierarchical network architecture, controlling load distribution of the radio communication system; and

at least one low level device at a second hierarchy lower than the first hierarchy, transmitting to said high level device, information about a current load situation of the physical resources administered by said at least one low level device for a data transmission to the user equipment, said high level device controlling the load distribution based on the information.

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26. (new) A radio communication system according to claim 25, wherein the radio communication system is a packet data transmission system.